



# **Sanford Police Department**

**815 West 13th Street**

**Sanford Fl. 32771**

**407.688.5070**

**[www.sanfordpolice.org](http://www.sanfordpolice.org)**

Dear Sanford Resident,

Your Sanford Police Department has contracted with The Omega Group to provide a crime mapping site. This is an excellent tool for residents to see what's happening in their neighborhoods.

Residents can use the site by visiting **[www.crimemapping.com](http://www.crimemapping.com)** To use the site, just select **Sanford Police, FL** from the first drop-down menu box and click **Search**. The site then displays a map of the area and populates it with colorful icons depicting the type and location of crimes (e.g., theft, drug, assault). When you click on an icon, you can see the case number, type of crime, time & date and address. Some icons have a red/white plus sign in the upper right corner which indicates there are multiple pages to the crime report.

You can generate your own reports focusing on specific crimes, dates and location.

Being informed is a great step in knowing what is happening in our neighborhoods.

*In Partnership With The Community*

**Emergency Number 911 • Non Emergency 407.688.5199**



**SANFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
815 WEST 13<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
SANFORD, FLORIDA 32771

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## History of Neighborhood Watch

*In early 1972, the National Sheriffs Association developed a model program for today's Neighborhood Watch program. At that time Chiefs of Police and Sheriffs from around the country were requesting a program that would squelch the increasing burglary rate across the country.*



*At that time, society increasingly became more mobile and faster paced. More households had both spouses working. The neighborhoods became deserted during the day. The term, "latchkey kids", came in to use. Neighbors stopped being concerned about their neighbor's property and began keeping more to themselves. The unity and cohesion of the traditional neighborhood gradually deteriorated. Neighbors were not looking out for each other.*

*Criminals recognized this trend and this opportunity. They began to take advantage of this knowledge. Law enforcement agencies alone were not able to keep up with the alarming rise in burglaries as thieves, without causing alarm or suspicion, invaded neighborhoods where no one was at home. It was also noted that communities able to obtain the assistance of their citizens in observing, recognizing and reporting suspicious or criminal activities were much better able to keep the burglary rate down.*

## To Start a Neighborhood Watch Program

Contact: Wendy Dorival  
Crime Prevention Coordinator  
Sanford Police Department  
407.688.5070 ext. 6008

***"We Look Out for Each Other."***

## Organize a Neighborhood Watch Program

**WARNING**



ALL SUSPICIOUS PERSONS AND ACTIVITIES  
ARE IMMEDIATELY REPORTED TO THE  
SANFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

## Neighborhood Watch Program Works!

- ❖ How Neighborhood Watch Works
- ❖ Benefits of Neighborhood Watch

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# Get Involved with Neighborhood Watch

By participating in a program where "We Look Out For Each Other", you can make a real difference in attacking crime in your community through your Neighborhood Watch involvement.

Everyone in the neighborhood participates, no matter their age, occupation, race or religion. You just have to be willing to be involved in improving your neighborhood.



## Benefits of Neighborhood Watch

- You get to know your neighbor
- Neighborhood policing by you and your neighbors
- Reduce the risk of being a crime victim
- Trains you how to observe / report suspicious activities
- Greater access to criminal activity information
- On-going training on Personal and Home Security
- Posting of Neighborhood Watch Signs
- Address issues of mutual concern

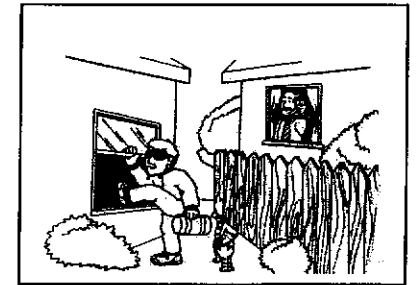
***You will make a difference!***

# How Neighborhood Watch Works

The key to success in any Neighborhood Watch program is the participants' willingness to **"Look Out For Each Other"** and the ability of each individual participant to observe and recognize what is suspicious, *then immediately reporting* it.

**Neighborhood Watch works like this:**

- Neighbors join together to provide information to one another.
- Participants receive training in observation techniques and recognition skills in order to recognize suspicious activity.
- Upon seeing a suspicious activity or a crime, participants **immediately report** their observation to police.
- Law enforcement responds and apprehends the suspect criminal.
- Your cooperation with the police is rewarded by you having saved your neighbor's property or even their life.



***"If you see suspicious activity, call the police immediately."***

# Burglary Prevention



## Home Security Booklet



### Sanford Police Department

815 West 13<sup>th</sup> Street

Sanford FL 32771

407.688.5070

*It is the mission of the Sanford Police Department to enhance the quality of life in our city by working in partnership with the community, within the framework of the constitution, to enforce the laws, preserve the peace, reduce fear, and provide a safe environment.*



[www.sanfordpolice.org](http://www.sanfordpolice.org)

# What Is Neighborhood Watch?

## Neighborhood Watch is:

- ◆ Learning about the people and activity patterns on your block, and how to recognize suspicious individuals, vehicles, and out-of-place behavior.
- ◆ Making the commitment with your neighbors to report suspicious activities to the police.
- ◆ Making your home as secure as possible against intruders.
- ◆ Marking and photographing all your valuables to reduce the likelihood of theft and to increase the chances of having stolen property returned to you.
- ◆ Establishing an ongoing communication network to discuss ways of mutually working together for the betterment of your block, your neighborhood, and the City of Hillsboro.

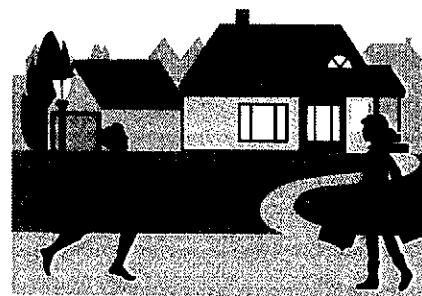


**These** components form the basis of the Neighborhood Watch Program. Individually, each aspect will help to make your block safer. By implementing all five will you achieve maximum protection and security against neighborhood crime.

**Share** this information with your neighbors. Remember, the more familiar you are with each other and crime prevention techniques, the safer your block will be.

## Know Your Neighbor

**One** of the most important aspects of Neighborhood Watch is getting to know your neighbors. Whether it is better to do so at a block meeting or one-one-one is up to you, but it is important that you share information about the composition of your households and activities. By doing so you make it easier for your block members to recognize and respond to any suspicious activities in your area. To “profile” your block, share with each other the following information:



- *Names of household members*
- *Address*
- *Phone numbers (include work numbers)*
- *Makes*
- *Models*
- *Colors*
- *License numbers of family cars*
- *Pets (Does a barking dog indicate an intruder?)*
- *Medical problems (note so the most appropriate response may be made in an emergency)*

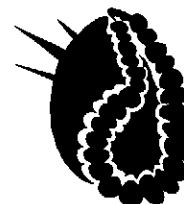
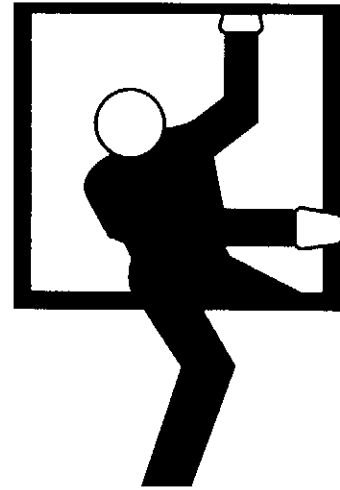
**Make** a block map of your network and distribute to your block participants. Discuss “weaknesses” of your area (for example, visibility of houses by neighbors, areas of high daytime vacancy, residences with vacancy due to vacations, etc.)

**Keep** your block map in a safe but accessible place (example, in phone book or desk).

**Remember**, the more information you share with each other, the better protected you will be. The more you know about the activities on your block, the better your chances of preventing a crime in your neighborhood.

# Crime Prevention Tips

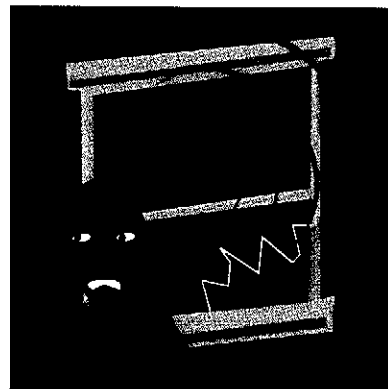
- ◆ **Most burglaries occur during daylight hours between 8 AM to 5 PM, while people are at work, shopping or taking kids to and from school.**
- ◆ **It only takes 3 minutes or less for a burglar to break in, steal your property and leave.**
  1. Lock your doors and windows, including the garage door, even if you'll only be gone a short time.
- ◆ **If a burglar can not gain entry into your home in less than 60 seconds, he (she) will move on to the next opportunity.**
- ◆ **Statistically, in the US 50% of all burglaries occur using NO FORCE, the burglar just walked in through an unlocked door or window.**
- ◆ **Burglars may case an area posing as: joggers, someone looking for an address or a friend, etc.**
  1. Be observant and report suspicious people, vehicles, and activities.
  2. Keep license plate numbers of suspicious vehicles in case a crime is committed later; police usually question neighbors to see if they noticed anything unusual.
- ◆ **Burglars may use pillow cases, duffel or gym bags to carry the goods they steal.**
  1. If you are burglarized, check to see if any of your luggage or pillowcases are missing.
- ◆ **Burglars take things that are easily fenced such as: jewelry, weapons, cameras, iPods, DVD players are a big items.**
  1. They stay away from marked property because fences won't take them.
  2. They usually only get 10 cents on the dollar from fences.
  3. Less than 1% of stolen property is returned to owners due to lack of positive identification.
  4. Mark property in two places. One that's obvious and another that is not. Use your driver's license number as an identification number.
  5. Keep serial numbers and description in a safe place.



## Tips (con't.)

♦ **Burglars target homes that look deserted.**

1. Make your house look like someone may be home.
2. Leave a radio or TV on when you leave.
3. Leave lights on if you won't be home before dark, or have lights on timers to turn on at dark.
4. Open drapes.
  - A. Have a trusted neighbor (relative) take in your daily mail and newspapers.
  - B. If you leave for a weekend or a few days, leave your 2<sup>nd</sup> car in the driveway, or ask a neighbor to park theirs in your driveway while you are gone.



♦ **Don't feel that you have to open the door to anyone who knocks. If you didn't invite them, you don't have to open the door.**

1. Ask who it is before you answer the door.

♦ **If someone wants to use your phone, make the call for them, don't let them in.**

♦ **Install window glazing for vulnerable areas like glass next to doors or glass doors.**

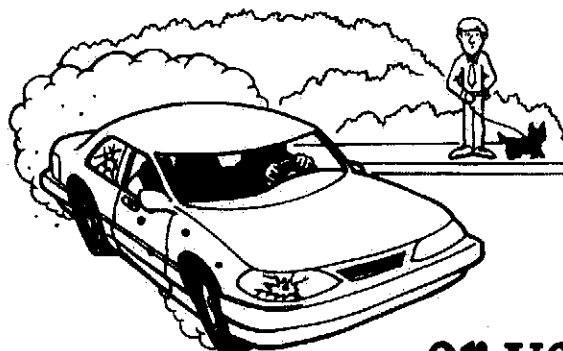
♦ **Call right away when you see suspicious people, vehicles or activity...don't wait an hour to do so.**



# Report suspicious persons . . .



# activities . . .



# . . . or vehicles.



# Operation Identification

## What Is Operation ID

Operation Identification is a nationwide program designed to discourage burglary and the theft of valuables from your home or business. This program provides a way for you and law enforcement officials to easily identify ownership of stolen property.

*You permanently engrave your state and driver's license number (or, if you do not drive, an identification number which can be obtained from DMV) on two permanent parts of your property. Make sure these are not easily removable parts.*

# FLDL123456

## Why use the driver's license number instead of your social security number?

Law enforcement agencies can easily access DMV records to determine the name that corresponds with the driver's license number. This number is only issued once; is not recycled or re-issued to another person. Law enforcement agencies do not have access to Social Security system.

## Why put the identification number on?

Property is stolen so it can be resold for cash. If you engrave your items the burglar will have difficulty selling them to his middleman or fence. He can't take them to a swap meet or pawnshop.

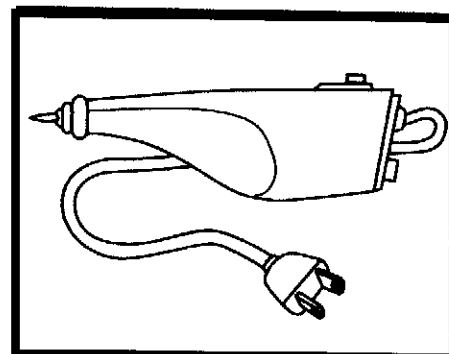
As a stolen item its market value is low to start with, but engraving it with an ID number makes it worth only 10% of even that. Marking property with an identifying

number will discourage burglary and theft because thieves are far more likely to be convicted if caught with engraved property in their possession. If a burglar knows all the valuables in your home are marked, he is likely to look for an easier and more profitable victim. **Another good point to consider:** When unmarked stolen property is taken into custody, it cannot be traced and returned to you.

If you move out of Florida and establish residency in another state, your Florida driver's license is no longer valid: Every DMV office in the US will cooperate with law enforcement giving them your forwarding address *if you advise the new local DMV office of your new address.* I

If you have not permanently marked your possessions, it is highly advisable to do that.

**Electric Engraver**



# *When crime hits home, the results can be devastating.*

They may include:

## **Financial and property loss,**

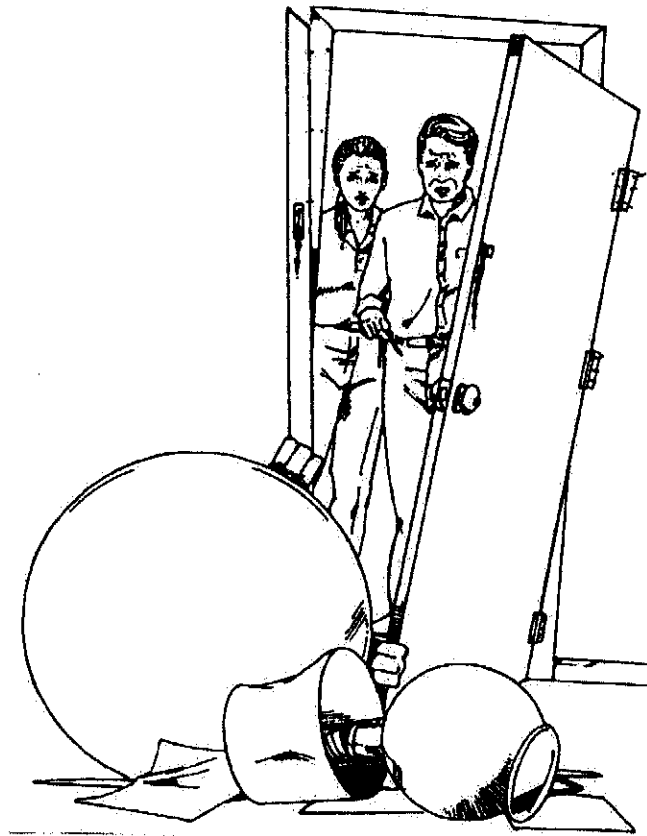
As well as vandalism of home and possessions.

## **Emotional turmoil**

-invasion of your privacy can cause as much trauma as the loss of prized possessions.

## **Possible physical harm**

-intruders can become violent, especially when they're caught in the act.



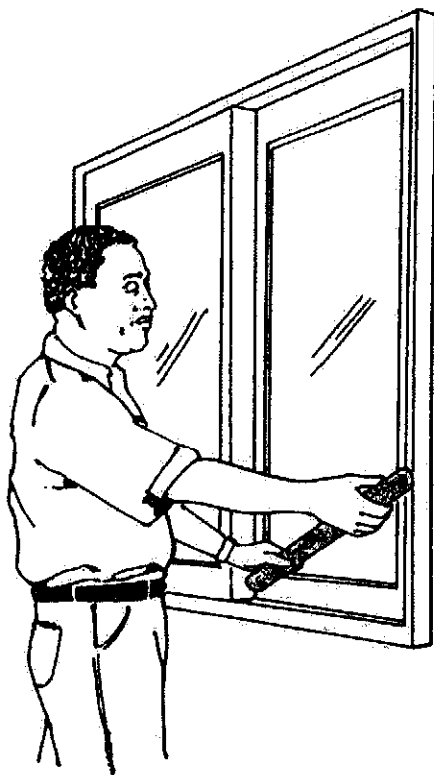
*The burglary of even one home can make an entire neighborhood feel angry or afraid.*

# *You can protect yourself against break-ins.*

In most cases, a little extra care and thought are all that's needed. Keep in mind that:

## **Most intruders seek easy targets.**

They want to get in quickly, quietly and unseen! The harder you make it for them, the lower your risk of a break-in.



## **Effective home security need not be costly!**

That's because common sense and a bit of time and energy can go a very long way!

# *We need to make it as hard as possible for a burglar to break in.*

# *Home security starts at the door.*

Here are a few ways to make exterior doors a real problem for would-be intruders.

## **Use sturdy doors.**

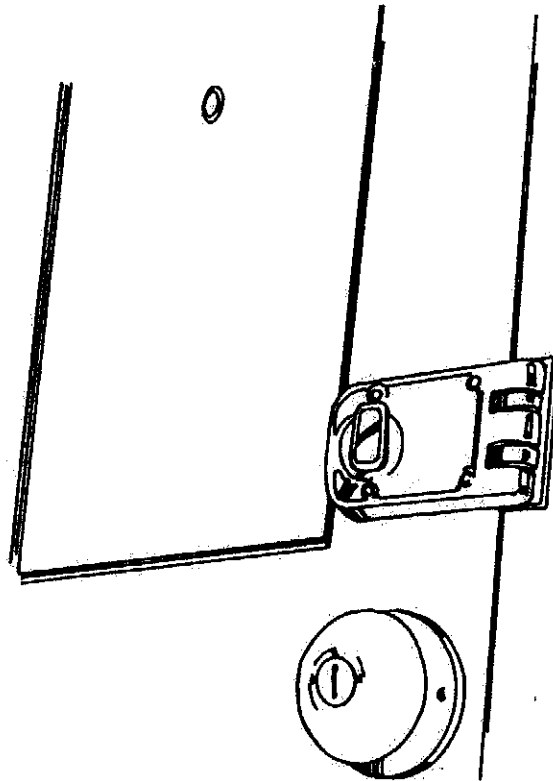
Solid wooden doors or doors reinforced with steel offer much more protection than hollow-core wooden doors.

## **Use safe locks.**

Adding deadbolt locks is a great idea because they can't be "popped" the way spring-latch locks can.

## **Install a peephole.**

Always know who's on the other side of your door before you open it.



## **Secure sliding glass doors.**

A broomstick or steel rod placed in the track will help a lot! You may also drill a hole through the upper part of the slider and track, and insert an eyelet bolt or pin for added security.

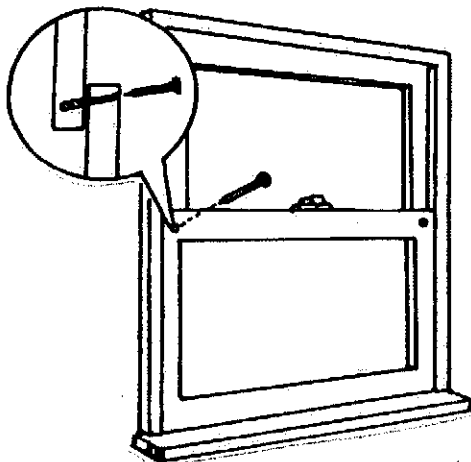
*50% of all burglaries  
can be prevented.*

# Remember to be window-wise!

Securing your windows makes clear sense.

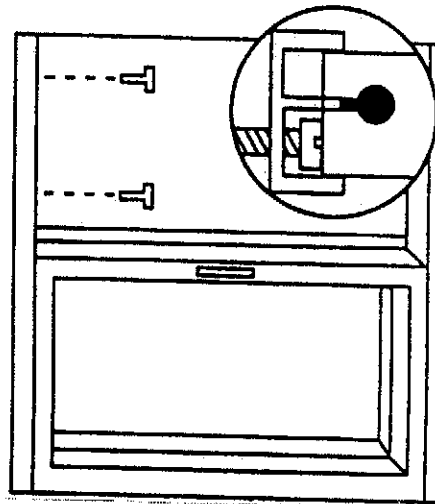
## Consider window pegs.

Drill a hole through the sliding window sash into the part that is stationary. Insert a nail or peg.



## More Window Tips:

- Make sure window air conditioners are firmly secured to the window.
- Make sure standard window locks close properly and are firmly screwed to the window frame.



## Adjustable screws in the upper track:

With the door or window open, drill holes and install several screws in the upper track. Adjust them so that the window or door just barely clears the screw -head.

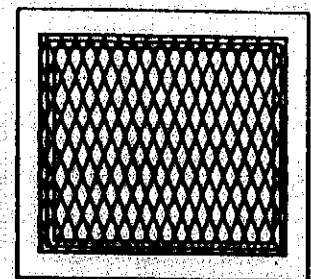
This prevents the door or window from being lifted from its track.

## Look into security glass.

Break-resistant plastic or treated glass around doors and in windows gives added security.

## Metal grilles.

Consider installing metal grilles or bars (with inside release levers) in basement /cellar and ground-level windows.





# Lighting and Landscaping

## Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design



You can do a lot to make your home's surroundings unattractive to burglars and vandals!

### **Locate outdoor lights carefully.**

Areas that benefit most from outdoor lighting are those that are most vulnerable—garage and shed doors, entryways and ground-level windows.

### **Consider various lighting options.**

For example:

- ◆ Motion sensor floodlights turn on when a person or object moves past them.
- ◆ Photo-electric lights automatically turn on at dusk and off at dawn.
- ◆ Low-voltage lighting uses very little energy to illuminate lawns, steps, walkways, shrubs, etc.



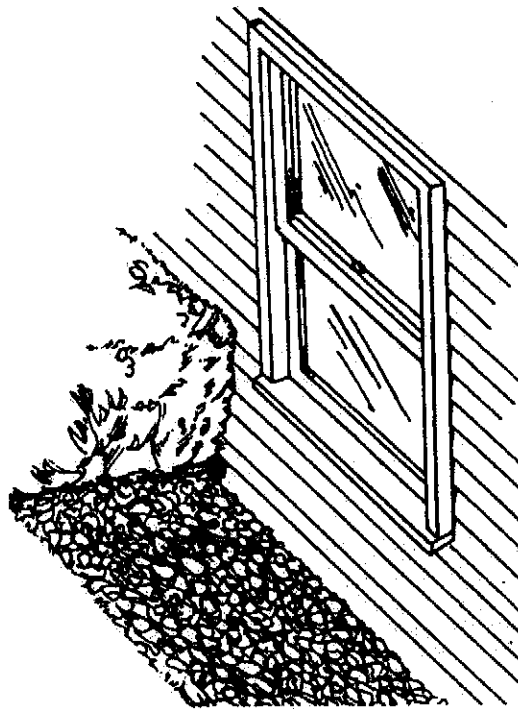
*Install floodlights high enough so that an intruder can't unscrew them.*

**Keep trees, shrubs and hedges trimmed.**

This will give intruders fewer places to hide.

**Plant defensive type shrubs or bushes around windows and walkways.**

Shrubs and bushes are favorite hiding spots for burglars. Spiny or thorny plants will discourage entry.

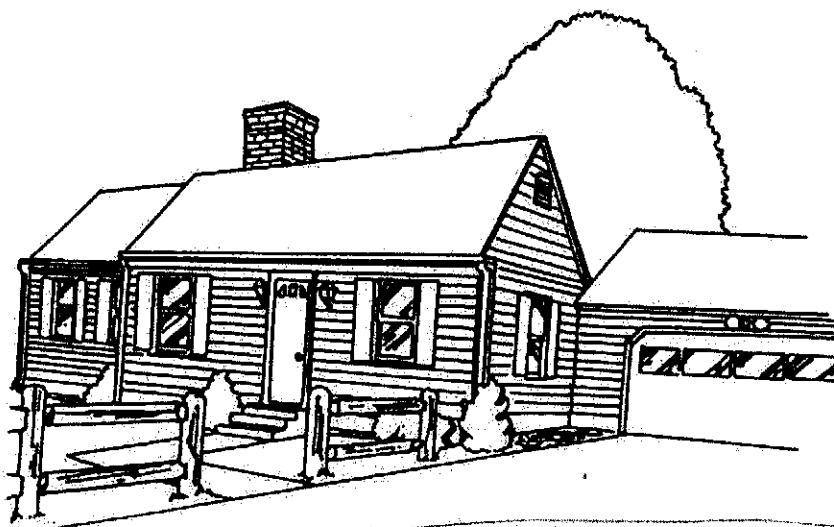


**Place gravel beds below windows.**

Gravel can be noisy and tough to sneak across without being heard.

**Position fencing and trees with care.**

Make sure they don't hide your windows, doors and walkways from public view, or serve as a step up to a window or balcony.



***Conduct a home security inspection to determine your home's weaknesses***